

CAPSULE SUMMARY CT-1121

Robert Hall barn is located on the west side of Gott road, approximately one-quarter of a mile from its intersection with Barstow Road. Access is private. The barn is located immediately adjacent to Gott road, and the road runs by its east gable end. The barn is situated on flat terrain and is oriented on an east-west axis. The cross-axial plan measures forty-four by twenty feet and has a twelve foot wide shed on the south side. The original barn measured twenty-eight by twenty feet, but a sixteen foot long addition has been built onto the west side of the barn and shed. The timbers of the original section are circular sawn and nailed with fully mature machine cut nails. The original section, therefore, dates to the period between ca. 1860 and 1890 prior to the introduction of wire nails but after the introduction of circular sawn lumber to the county. According to the present owner the addition was built ca. 1930.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. CT-1121

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Robert Hall Barn

## 2. Location

street &amp; number 440 Gott Rd.

☐ not for publication

city, town Barstow

☒ vicinity of

congressional district

state MD

county Calvert

## 3. Classification

| Category  | Ownership                                   | Status                                       | Present Use                                     |  |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district               | <input type="checkbox"/> public             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> museum            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied          | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial             | <input type="checkbox"/> park              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure              | <input type="checkbox"/> both               | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress    | <input type="checkbox"/> educational            | <input type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site                   | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                   | <b>Accessible</b>                            | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment          | <input type="checkbox"/> religious         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object                 | <input type="checkbox"/> in process         | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted     | <input type="checkbox"/> government             | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific        |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered   | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted   | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial             | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation    |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> not applicable     | <input type="checkbox"/> no                  | <input type="checkbox"/> military               | <input type="checkbox"/> other:            |

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Robert Hall

street &amp; number 440 Gott Rd.

telephone no.: 535-3289

city, town Barstow

state and zip code MD 20610

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse

liber

street &amp; number Main Street (MD 765)

folio

city, town Prince Frederick

state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records

city, town

state

## 7. Description

Survey No. CT-1121

### Condition

☐ excellent

☒ good

☐ fair

☐ deteriorated

☐ ruins

☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered

☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date of move

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

See Attachment.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. CT-1121

| Period  | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below    |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric          | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric  | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning     | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic     | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation           | <input type="checkbox"/> law                    | <input type="checkbox"/> science         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture  | <input type="checkbox"/> economics              | <input type="checkbox"/> literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education              | <input type="checkbox"/> military               | <input type="checkbox"/> social/         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy             | <input type="checkbox"/> theater         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-     | <input type="checkbox"/> communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government    | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation  |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              |   | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.  
See Attachment.

Survey No. CT-1121

## 7. DESCRIPTION CT-1121

Robert Hall barn is located on the west side of Gott road, approximately one-quarter of a mile from its intersection with Barstow Road. The barn is located immediately adjacent to Gott road, and the road runs by its east gable end. The barn is situated on flat terrain and is oriented on an east-west axis. The cross-axial plan barn measures forty-four by twenty feet and has a twelve foot wide shed on the south side. The original barn measured twenty-eight by twenty feet, but a sixteen foot long addition has been built onto the west side of the barn and shed. The timbers of the original section are circular sawn and nailed with fully mature machine cut nails. The original section, therefore, dates to the period between ca. 1860 and 1890 prior to the introduction of wire nails but after the introduction of circular sawn lumber to the county.

The original barn section measures twenty-eight by twenty feet. It has two four foot wide doors centered on its north and east sides. There are pintel holes remaining in a post on the west side of the original barn where another four foot wide door once stood. The original barn section has four six foot and one four foot wide bay. The medium weight timber frame is supported on mortared brick piers. The posts are circular sawn and joined via mortise and tenon joints with trunnels. Fully mature machine cut nails are visible in the original section. Down braces and horizontal nailing rails are circular sawn, but the sill is hewn. Vertical wall siding with minimal ventilation covers the exterior. Shingle nailers are underneath the metal on the original barn section. Metal now covers the roof. The roof rafters are on four foot centers and rest on a flat false plate. There are no windbraces, but three collars help to support the roof. Tier poles are peeled logs laid on rails that are nailed between the central posts. The tier poles are separated by forty inches vertical distance.

There is an original shed on the south side. The shed is original since there is no evidence that the south side of the barn was ever sided or that there was a doorway along the south wall. The south shed measures twelve feet wide and has earth-fast principal posts. The posts are separated by eight and twelve feet. The timbers are the same as those in the original barn section. The roof has shingle nailers underneath the metal. Vertical wall siding covers the exterior walls. There is an enclosed stripping room area in the southeast corner of the south shed.

According to the owner, the sixteen foot wide barn addition was built ca. 1930. It is built of dark wood, of a slightly lighter weight than that in the barn. The frame of the addition is

7. DESCRIPTION (CONTINUED) CT-1121

supported on concrete blocks. All timbers are circular sawn and toe-nailed with wire nails. The roof is metal. The shed addition was built at the same time as the barn addition, as there is no evidence of any siding along the south wall of the addition. All of the materials used in the west shed addition are the same as those in the barn addition.

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE CT-1121

This barn is architecturally significant as it incorporates within its structure several periods of tobacco barn architecture in Calvert County. The first section of the barn and south shed date to the period after the introduction of circular sawn timber and prior to the introduction of wire nails (ca. 1860-1890). The second section, according to the present owner, dates to (ca. 1930). As such, the different approaches to the construction of the barn can help serve to date barns with similar materials and techniques. The barn is very similar to CT-1119, also owned by Mr. Robert Hall, and may represent the work of the same builder.

This barn also yields information regarding agricultural history in Southern Maryland. In February 1990, a tobacco barn survey was initiated in order to study the tobacco barns of Calvert County. Until fairly recently, tobacco was the most important farm crop of the county. More acreage was devoted to its cultivation than for both of the next most extensive farm products (corn and wheat). The barns and stripping houses related to this "Tobacco Culture" are widely recognized as the most common element on the rural landscape. These structures are also the most threatened, as the market for tobacco declines. They seem to have, at present, only limited capabilities for re-use. Many barns and stripping houses now stand empty. The purpose of this survey has been to gather information and document a wide sample of these structures before they disappear from the landscape.

Historical Period theme(s): ca. 1860-; Tobacco; Agriculture  
Geographical Organization: Western Shore Chesapeake Bay Calvert Cty MD  
Chronological/Developmental Period: ca. 1860-Present  
Resource Type(s): Tobacco Barn

The original barn and shed were built sometime between ca. 1860 and 1890. The addition was built around 1930 according to the present owner. Probably around this time, the shingle roof was removed from the original barn and replaced by metal. According to Mr. Hall the land on which the barn stands was originally owned by the King family and then later by the Gott family before his family purchased it. Tobacco is no longer grown by Mr. Hall and the barn is now used solely for hay storage.



Barn #2094/CT-1121 - Robert Hall 440 Gott Road., Barstow MD.  
Hwy 4 to 231 to Barstow to Gott Rd., turn right, and go to second house on right. Barn is on Gott Road. Was originally owned by King, then Gott family, now Hall.

Private ownership, Occupied (hay storage)

TW recorder - Partly cloudy and humid

Altered, good condition. East-west axis.

Frame is supported on mortared brick piers. Medium weight timbers.posts are circular sawn and joined via mortise and tenon with trunnels. Fully mature machine cut nails are visible. Down braces, horizontal nailing rails are circular sawn. Sill is hewn. Vertical wall siding with minimal ventilation covers the exterior. Shingle nailers are underneath the metal on the original barn section. Metal covers the roof and the roof of the addition now. Rafters of roof are on four foot centers and rest on a flat false plate. No windbraces, but three collars help to support the roof. Tier poles are peeled logs laid on rails that are nailed between the posts that run down the center. The tier poles are separated by forty inches vertical distance.

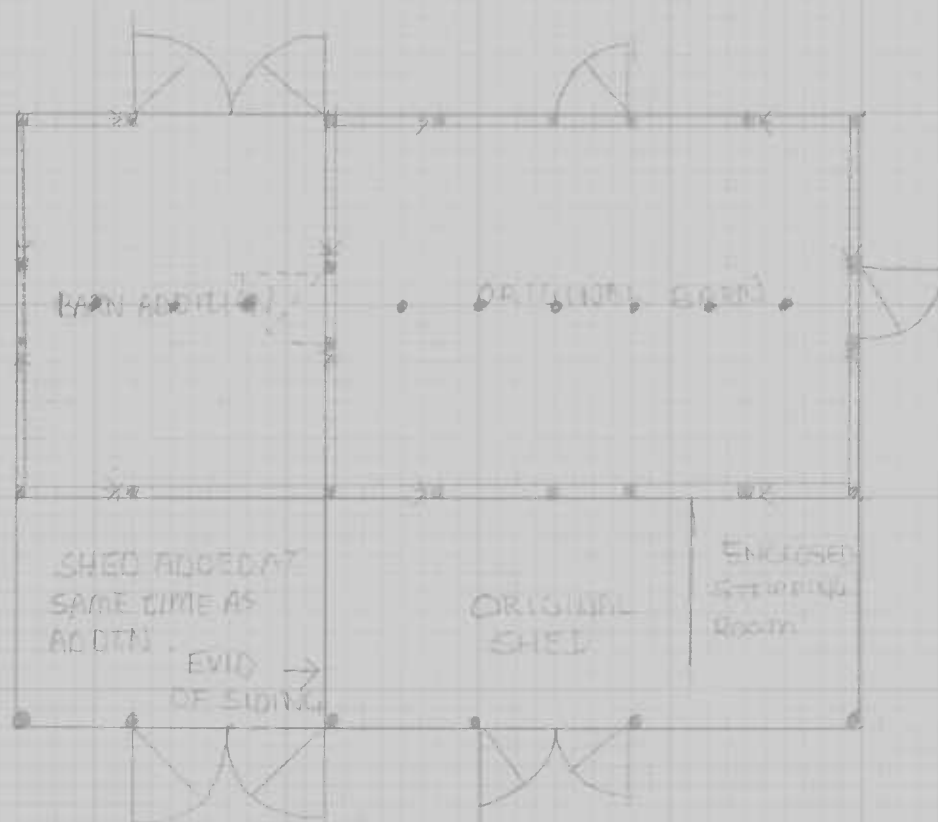
The south shed has earth-fast principal posts. The timbers are the same as those in the original barn section. The roof has shingle nailers underneath the metal. Vertical wall siding covers the exterior walls. There is an enclosed stripping room area in the southeast corner of the south shed.

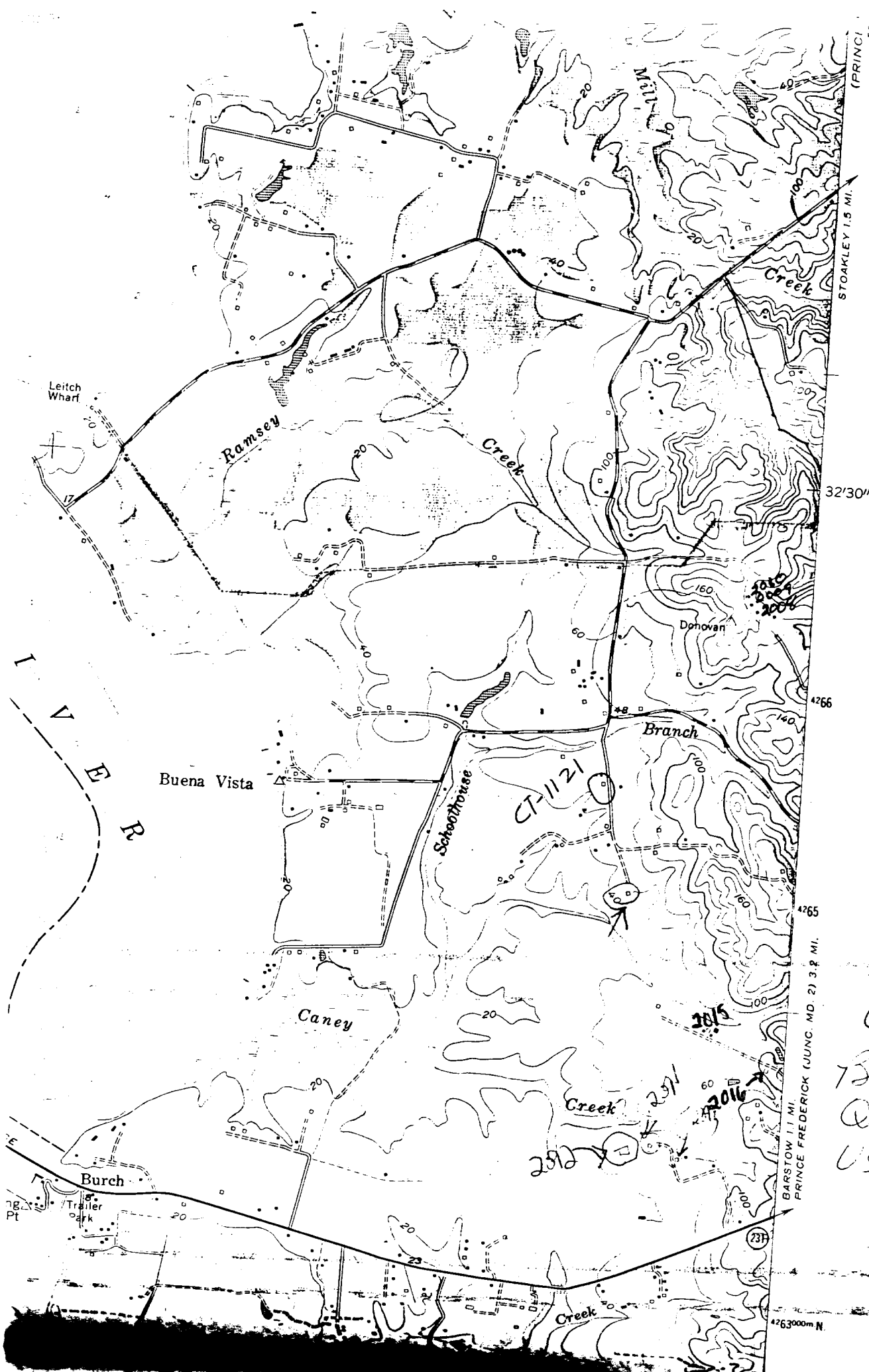
Barn addition was built ca. 1930 according to owner. It is built of dark wood, slightly lighter weight. The shed addition was built at the same time.

CT-1121

BARN # 2094 5/9/10-JW

ROBERT L. WALL BARN





CT-1121  
Benedict  
Quad  
USGS-1974



CT-021

RHALL BARN

TORA L WILLIAMSON